

National Investments

Funded at the national level, national investment projects are national in scope and of regional importance. Although these Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) projects may be developed and implemented by a selected region, they are designed to be replicated throughout the country.

Urban forests in metropolitan areas have a distinct characteristic, challenges, and opportunities.



Alliance for Community Trees

The cost for emergency wildfire suppression in the western regions canceled funding for this capacity-building project. If funding is restored, we will request to restore this project. Amount: \$50,000.

American Forests—Green Infrastructure Study for Three Metropolitan Cities

American Forests will conduct Urban Ecosystem Analyses in three metropolitan areas to establish a green data layer for local communities to use in future planning. The status of the projects is as follows:

Charlotte, NC

Landsat image acquisition and analysis is complete. Multispectral, high-resolution imagery has been collected and is currently being analyzed. A CITYgreen training session was conducted and a press conference on the findings of the study was held the week of March 19.

San Diego, CA

American Forests has acquired Landsat images and will begin analysis. We have just identified the coverage and imagery type for the high-resolution imagery. It was ordered January 15, 2003. CITYgreen training and a press conference were held in July 2003.

San Antonio, TX

This is a continuation of our previous Landsat study we completed in October 2002. In this project we will locate high-resolution imagery to purchase. We have secured State and corporate matching funds. The results of this study will be released at the 2003 National Urban Forest Conference in September.

Hispanic Web Page

Overview

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Hispanic Web page, at <http://www.ISAhispana.com>, was launched in FY 2002. The all-in-Spanish site features three sections. The Free Publications to Download and Print section includes items such as ISA's popular consumer information guides. Links lists 55 of the most comprehensive national and international sites relevant to the arboriculture field—including sites related to botany, entomology, forestry, safety, and pesticides; university pages; and sites from many Latin American countries and other United States' organizations and departments; The Publications and Other Resources for Sale section includes the Spanish versions of ISA's Tree Climbers' Guide, Arborists' Certification Study Guide, various National Arborist Association publications, and ISA's Quick Reference Guide for Arboriculture Terms, English-Spanish, Spanish-English.

The site aims to be the world's leading on-line source for arboriculture information in Spanish. The contents of the site will be updated as needed and future plans include providing additional links and downloadable information, as well as creating a discussion board. The USDA Forest Service provided funds for the development of this Web site as a National Investment project.

Contacts

For comments or suggestions contact:

Mark Duff
tfskerr@ktc.com
830-257-7744

Iris Magaly Zayas
izayas@fs.fed.us
404-347-1650

Peggy Currid
pcurrid@isa-arbor.com
217-355-9411.

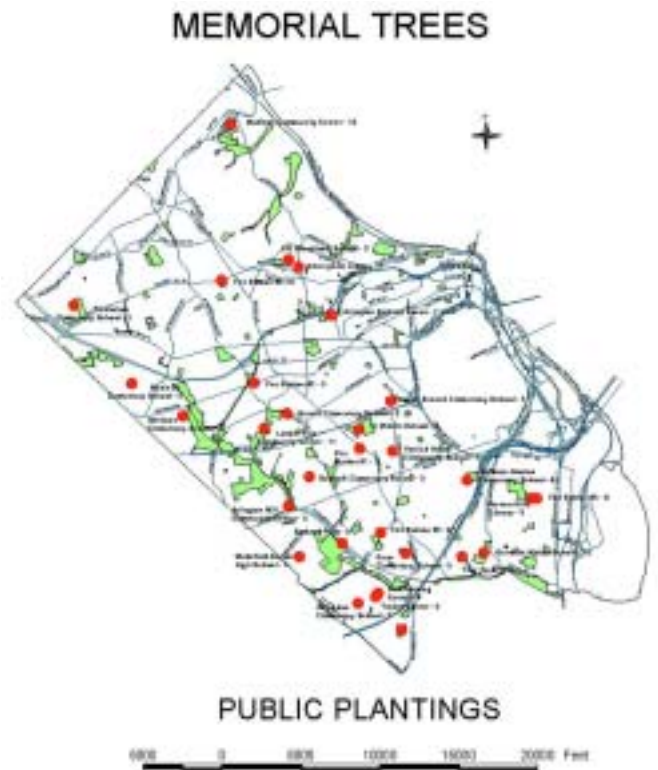
Living Memorial Project

American Forests' Memorial Tree Groves in the USDA Forest Service Southern Region

To date, through a grant to American Forests, the USDA Forest Service has donated more than 350 trees to the Memorial Tree Grove effort. Throughout Arlington County, VA, home of the Pentagon, 184 trees were planted on public property. Thirty-eight trees were planted at fire stations and 74 were planted at 16 Arlington school facilities, including the Arlington Science Focus School, Tuckahoe Elementary, and Wakefield High School. Other public tree-planting venues include community centers and libraries throughout Arlington. These trees were approximately 1" caliper and 6- to 10-feet tall. Species composition ranged from Mt. Vernon red maple, sycamore, and tulip poplar to willow oak and sweet gum. Since the USDA Forest Service provided a grant for these trees, American Forests was able to match the donation with private funding to secure another 184 trees to be planted on private property in Arlington County; therefore, a total of 368 trees were donated to the county. See the following map and list for the location of the public trees.

To commemorate the plantings, Arlington County held a press conference on December 1, 2002, to dedicate the memorial trees. American Forests' Karen Fedor spoke at the press conference along with Joyce Johnson and Bruce Serva, surviving family members of the Pentagon tragedy.

At the Pentagon, plans are under way for an official memorial; American Forests and the USDA Forest Service will work with Pentagon officials to ensure that the memorial is properly landscaped as an appropriate tribute to the 184 people who lost their lives there on September 11, 2001. The winning design for the official memorial at the Pentagon was announced on March 3.



At the Pentagon, American Forests donated 72 trees to the Pentagon Renovation project. Deborah Gangloff, Karen Fedor, and Rachel Brittin from American Forests attended opening ceremony along with Susan Mockenhaupt from the USDA Forest Service, and Dulce Pino, Eddie Bauer's District Director for the Washington, DC, area. During the ceremony, American Forests and the USDA Forest Service were thanked a number of times by high-ranking Pentagon officials for their donation. Species composition ranged from red maple, leyland cypress, and holly 'Nellie Stevens' to Andrew Jackson southern magnolia and a southern magnolia greenback. Most of these trees were in the 3- to 4-inch caliper range.

American Forests and the USDA Forest Service also commemorated the life of Richard Guadagno, Refuge Manager of Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, with historic tree seedlings at a tree-planting ceremony.

**USDA Forest Service and American Forests
Memorial Trees on Public Sites in Arlington County, VA**

No.of Trees	Public Facility	Address
4	Thomas Jefferson Middle School	125 South Old Glebe Road
3	HB Woodlawn High School	4100 Vacation Lane
3	Barrett Elementary School	4401 North Henderson Road
3	Wakefield High School	4901 South Chesterfield Road
3	Abingdon Elementary School	3035 South Abingdon Street
3	School Facility	2770 South Taylor Street
3	Drew Model Elementary School	3500 South 23rd Street
3	Carlin Springs Elementary School	5995 South 5th Road
3	McKinley Elementary School	1030 North McKinley Road
5	Tuckahoe Elementary School	6550 North 26th Street
7	Arlington Science Focus Elementary School	1501 North Lincoln Street
5	Patrick Henry Elementary School	701 South Highland Street
3	Ashlawn Elementary School	5950 North 8th Road
5	Long Branch Elementary School	33 North Fillmore Street
3	Barcroft Elementary School	625 South Wakefield Street
6	Hoffman-Boston Elementary School	1415 South Queen Street
12	Gunston Middle School	2700 South Lang Street
4	Fire Department Training Academy	2800 South Taylor Street
9	Fire Station #1	500 South Glebe Road
9	Fire Station #2	4805 Wilson Boulevard
6	Fire Station #5	1750 South Hayes Street
4	Fire Station #8	4845 Lee Highway
6	Fire Station #9	1900 South Walter Reed Drive
2	Cherrydale Public Library	2190 Military Road
3	Aurora Hills Public Library	735 South 18th Street
15	Thomas Jefferson Community Center	3501 South 2nd Street
10	Barcroft Sports and Fitness Center	4200 South Four Mile Run Drive
3	Arlington Mill Community Center	4975 Columbia Pike
10	Madison Community Center	3829 North Stafford Street
16	Fairlington Community Center	3308 South Stafford Street
2	Troy Park	2629 South Troy Street
11	Lubber Run Community Center	300 North Park Drive

RPA Assessment

Title of Project: Sustaining Our Nation's Urban Forest Resource

USDA Forest Service Study Managers:

David J. Nowak, NE-4952, Syracuse, NY; and John F. Dwyer, NC-4902, Evanston, IL (Comanagers)

Program Overview

The first urban forest Resource Protection Act (RPA) assessment defined urban forests and quantified the spatial distribution of urban tree cover and urban tree and human populations across the United States (Dwyer et al. 2000, Connecting People with Ecosystems in the 21st Century: An Assessment of our Nation's Urban Forests). The report concluded that the U.S. urban forest is a significant, complex, and dynamic national resource that promises to increase in extent and importance in the years ahead. By understanding the functions and benefits provided by urban forests and how these forests are changing, better management and policy decisions can be made to enhance urban forest health and sustainability into the future.

Program Objectives

This special study has the following four objectives:

- To assess changes in urban forest extent and cover between 1991 (first urban forest RPA) and 2000.
- To develop a methodology to enable continual assessment of urban forest change in the future using Landsat data and census information.
- To quantify urban forest functions and values (e.g., carbon storage and sequestration, air quality improvement, building energy conservation) at the national, regional, and State scales.
- To assess urban forest sustainability as related to forest structure, functions, and health and within the context of the Montreal Process Criteria and Indicators.

Program Accomplishments

- Obtained 2000 Census boundaries files.
- Completed or began analysis of five zones.
- Received contributions from cooperators on the development of the national cover map. Cooperators are working on various other zones.
- Completed of national urban forest carbon estimates (Nowak and Crane 2002).
- Completed data analyses of air pollution removal by urban forests nationally and for 50 individual cities. Data has currently been summarized in tables. Publication is in draft.

- Completed data analyses of national compensatory value of urban forests (Nowak et al. 2002).
- Completed analyses of building energy conservation effects and associated effects of carbon dioxide emissions from power plants. Publication is in draft.

Final Urban Forest RPA Assessment Document

The new urban forest assessment document will be completed by FY 2005. The document will contain new information on the following:

- Urban tree cover, potentially plantable space, and impervious surface cover in the United States.
- National, regional, and State changes in urban tree cover between 1991 and 2000.
- National, regional, and State changes in the extent of urbanization and urban demographics between 1994 and 2000.
- National, regional, and State estimates of urban forest carbon storage, sequestration, and value.
- National, regional, and State estimates of air pollution removal by urban forests and its associated value.
- National, regional, and State estimates of urban forest compensatory value.
- National, regional, and State estimates of building energy conservation and associated effects on carbon emissions from power plants resulting from existing urban forest resources.
- Urban forest structure and functions in selected cities.
- Urban forest sustainability.
- Role of urban forests and urban forestry within the Montreal Process Criteria and Indicators.
- Optimal urban forest structure to enhance benefits.



Figure 1. Ecozones of the coterminous United States.

Society of Municipal Arborists

Program Overview

With support from the USDA Forest Service U&CF Program, the Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA) will build its capacity to support the growing number of professional arborists that are being hired in response to the national program. Municipal arborists lead their communities in the education, planting, care, and maintenance of the urban forest, so it is critical that they have access to new and current information. For many municipal arborists, conferences and news articles provide the primary avenue of continuing education. SMA's *City Trees* magazine will publish articles summarizing presentations given at conferences so that SMA members who are unable to attend will learn of the new information and technology shared at these meetings. The visiting forester program will enable municipal arborists to learn directly from one another, and their experiences will be shared in *City Trees*.

Program Accomplishments

- A strategic planning process was begun at the annual conference in Ithaca, NY, in October 2002 and continued at the mid-year board meeting in January 2003.
- During the redesign process of *City Trees*, a National Issues page was added. Six bimonthly issues of the magazine were published in FY 2002.

- The executive director participated in many regional meetings of the International Society of Arboriculture to strengthen municipal presence and awareness.
- The SMA distributed complimentary issues of *City Trees* at the conferences attended by the executive director and to people who inquired about SMA via e-mail, phone, and mail.
- The SMA annual conference featured the following speakers: Karl Niklas, Paul Weston, Nina Bassuk, George Hudler, and Peter Trowbridge from Cornell University; Chris Luley and Jerry Bond from Davey Resource Group; Frances Kuo from the University of Illinois; Neil Hendrickson from Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories; and David J. Nowak from the USDA Forest Service.
- The SMA sponsored two visiting forester exchanges in FY 2002. The U.S. municipal arborists participating are from Indiana and Chicago, IL.

Contact

Jerri J. LaHaie
Society of Municipal Arborists
P.O. Box 641
Watkinsville, GA 30677
706-769-7412 (phone)
706-769-7307 (fax)
e-mail: urbanforestry@prodigy.net
<http://www.urban-forestry.com>